## Nominations open for the Organic Advisory Council

Release Date: January 24, 2013

Media Contact: Ashley Andre 608-224-5002 <u>ashley.andre@wi.gov</u>
Jim Dick, Communications Director 608-224-5020 <u>jim.dick@wi.gov</u>

MADISON – Now is the time to become involved in the Wisconsin Organic Advisory Council. The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is accepting nominations through March 10 for four open seats.

The 12 member Organic Advisory Council is made up of representatives from organic farms, businesses, consumers, non-profit organizations and the certification industry. The four open seats are to be filled by an organic farmer, representatives from an organic business and a non-profit with one 'at-large' seat.

The Council meets quarterly to provide input on government policies, guide education and identify market opportunities.

People can choose to self-nominate or nominate another individual. Selected members will serve a three-year term, beginning at the July meeting.

A complete nomination includes a two-page application and two letters of recommendation. Nominations will be reviewed by a committee and approved by the DATCP Secretary and Board.

The Wisconsin Organic Advisory Council was established in 2007. The state ranks second in the nation for the number of organic farms.

Additional details, including the nomination form, are available at <a href="http://datcp.wi.gov/Farms/Organic Farming/Advisory Council">http://datcp.wi.gov/Farms/Organic Farming/Advisory Council</a>. For more information, contact DATCP's Mike Bandli at 608-224-5136 or mike.bandli@wi.gov.

###